



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NORTHERN VIRGINIA MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE CELEBRATES 40 YEARS

Richmond, VA – On Tuesday, May 20, at 1 p.m., Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute (NVMHI) will hold a celebration marking its 40th Anniversary. Media are invited to attend:

Tuesday, May 20, 2008; 1 p.m.
Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute
3302 Gallows Road
Falls Church, VA 22042-3398

The facility first opened its doors to patients on January 15, 1968. At the time, it was a 120-bed short-term hospital that provided intensive treatment to individuals with acute mental health needs living in Northern Virginia.

Now at 129 beds, it strives to promote recovery of individuals with serious mental illness through the use of safe, efficient, and effective services. NVMHI is one of seven state mental health facilities operated by the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services (DMHMRSAS).

“Since opening its doors in 1968, NVMHI has helped set the standard in the Commonwealth for changing the way individuals with mental illness are cared for and treated,” said James Reinhard, M.D., DMHMRSAS commissioner. “Over the past forty years, thousands of individuals with mental illness in Virginia have benefited from excellent care and partnership with the community thanks to NVMHI.”

Speakers at the anniversary celebration will include keynote speaker DMHMRSAS Commissioner James Reinhard, NVMHI Director Lynn DeLacy and NVMHI Advisory Council President Saranna Rankin.

Then a registered nurse, the current NVMHI director, Dr. Lynn DeLacy, was the first nursing team leader when the facility opened. DeLacy was named facility director in 2003.

For more information about NVMHI, please visit www.nvmhi.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov. For more information about DMHMRSAS facilities, please visit www.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov/SVC-StateFacilities.htm. Media planning to attend the event should contact [Meghan McGuire](#) at (804) 786-9048.

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Virginia's public mental health, mental retardation and substance abuse services system is comprised of 16 state facilities and 40 community services boards (CSBs) that serve children and adults who have or who are at risk of mental illness, serious emotional disturbance, mental retardation, or substance use disorders.

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